

field search and rescue training, wilderness survival, winter operations, aircraft crash rescue, and more. They live their high school career on call prepared to save lives.

When a person is lost in the Colorado mountains, the patrol's teenage volunteers handle dispatch, patrolling, active search and rescue, emergency medical care, and command of the operation.

In towns like Littleton, Englewood, and Aurora, they manage block searches and neighborhood canvassing to find lost children and elderly neighbors. Patrol members are also on scene for disasters like blizzards, floods, chemical spills, and commercial plane crashes, providing assistance to local police, fire, and the sheriff department.

I am proud to take a moment to honor the hundreds of young heroes who served admirably in the Arapahoe Rescue Patrol over the last 60 years, balancing their high school careers with the commitment to saving lives. We owe a debt of gratitude to these dedicated, service-minded young folks.

THE SIREN SONG OF EARMARKS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, ever since the Magna Carta, it has been a settled principle of good governance that the power that appropriates public funds should not be the same power that spends them. This is at the heart of our Constitution, the separation of powers.

Simply speaking, it is mother's rule writ large. Mother has one slice of pie left and two hungry sons. How does she cut the pie so that both brothers are satisfied? One slices, the other chooses. One brother cannot abuse his powers precisely because of the powers accorded to the other.

And it is the same with our Constitution. One brother makes law, but cannot enforce it; the other enforces law, but cannot make it. One brother appropriates money, but cannot spend it; the other spends money, but cannot appropriate it.

Now, imagine how differently mother's rule would work if the same brother who sliced the pie also chose his piece.

Yet that is exactly the principle of congressional earmarks: Choosing the same slice of pie you have just cut or, more precisely, spending the same money that you have just appropriated. Nearly 1,500 earmarks, totaling \$5.7 billion, have been dropped into the so-called infrastructure bill alone since a bipartisan spending frenzy revived this corrupt practice this year.

This monumentally bad idea rests on two arguments. The first is that elected Members of Congress, and not unelected bureaucrats, should spend the people's money. The problem, of course, is that Representatives aren't

elected by all the people, only by their distinct constituencies. Representatives are inherently biased toward their own districts. That is why Congress is designed to act collectively.

Only the executive answers to the entire Nation and can resist the manifest excesses of a body controlled by 535 demanding constituencies and their district-focused Representatives. That is why appropriating money is a congressional function, and spending it is an executive one.

The second argument is that earmarks can grease legislation by buying off the votes of individual Members whose judgment would otherwise oppose a measure. Add a few local projects for that Member, and suddenly a bill he would never vote for on its merits becomes a local imperative overriding his sound judgment.

Please explain to me how that is a good thing.

And if earmarks are to be handed out as a reward for voting legislation, Members will prudently keep a list of earmarks handy as the demand for vote for any bill, whether or not they already plan to vote for it.

And this is not a theoretical discussion. We have learned the hard way what comes from breaching the Constitution's checks and balances.

The first problem is the corrupting nature of earmarks. When we place the power to appropriate and the power to spend in the same hands, we bypass the most important check that we have against corruption.

A local company produces a product the Pentagon neither needs nor wants.

Well, what to do?

Ingratiate yourself with the local Congressman; have him tell the Pentagon what it needs and who will provide it; and then reward him lavishly at election time and repeat. It should come as no surprise that many of the congressional scandals of the 1990s and 2000s arose from earmarks.

Second, earmarks bypass the normal process in which projects compete on their merits. Worthy projects don't need earmarks if appropriations are spent by the executive branch, according to well-established competitive, open-bid procedures. Earmarks are only required to protect unworthy projects from merit-driven competition. And even if there is such a thing as a good earmark, the price invariably is logrolling all the bad ones.

Third, earmarks harm the central tenet of federalism: That local projects should be financed by local communities, and Federal expenditures reserved for the Nation's general welfare.

When a local government proposes an earmark, what is it saying?

It is saying the project is so low on its priority list, it won't spend its own local taxpayers funds; but it is perfectly happy to have taxpayers in other communities foot the bill. The result is a grab bag of dubious projects that rob St. Petersburg to pay St. Paul for projects St. Petersburg doesn't deem

worthy enough to spend its own funds on, and that St. Paul pays for but receives no benefit from.

We have sung this old song many times before and it has never ended well.

REPEAL AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF MILITARY FORCE AGAINST IRAQ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to urge all my colleagues to join me in voting for H.R. 256, Congresswoman LEE's legislation to repeal the 2002 Authorization for Use of Military Force against Iraq.

In 2002, Congress voted to authorize the use of force against Iraq based on what would later prove to be false, baseless, and misleading intelligence provided by the Bush administration. A year later, Saddam Hussein was overthrown; a democratic government was established; and, finally, in 2011, a formal declaration of the end of our mission was announced.

But 10 years later, this authorization for the use of force remains on the books.

We must repeal this 19-year-old authorization that has been used and abused to justify expansive military actions across the globe. If we are serious about preventing forever wars, we must repeal the AUMF and exercise Congress' constitutional authority to declare war and peace.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this important legislation.

INCREASING CORPORATE BOARD DIVERSITY

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I also rise in support of H.R. 1187, the Corporate Governance Improvement and Investor Protection Act, and, specifically, the Meeks-Maloney amendment that we will consider today.

We show our priorities by our actions; and, today, we are not just talking about diversity, we are acting to improve diversity in the corporate boardroom.

I want to thank Mr. MEEKS, the sponsor of this amendment. He and I have worked on this issue a long time together, and I thank him for his leadership.

The goal of our amendment, the Improving Corporate Governance Through Diversity Act, is extremely important, increasing diversity on corporate boards. This is something I believe in passionately; and while we have made great progress, we still have a long way to go.

Getting more women, minorities, and individuals from historically underrepresented communities into corporate leadership positions is extremely important. Leaders set the tone, and they set the priorities.

Back in 2015, I asked the Government Accountability Office to look at the gender makeup of corporate boards, and the results were discouraging, and they convinced me that we need to do more.

Women make up roughly 47 percent of the workforce, yet they hold roughly 29 percent of corporate board seats. The GAO found that even if we assume that equal proportions of women and men started joining boards starting right now, it would take more than 40 years for there to be an equal number of women and men in the corporate boardrooms.

We can't wait 40 years for parity. Something needs to change.

But let's also be clear: Increasing diversity on corporate boards is not just a moral issue; it is good for business, too. Study after study has shown that companies with greater diversity on their boards perform better financially, which is why investors want the companies they invest in to make diversity a priority.

In fact, I started working on this bill at the request of investors and investor organizations that wanted to more easily be able to track diversity on boards.

This legislation would help investors accomplish this by requiring public companies to report the voluntary, self-identified racial, ethnic, gender identity, and sexual orientation composition of their board members and executive officers in their annual proxy statement.

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By putting this information in one place for investors, the bill would help investors to quickly sort the companies that do and do not have diverse boards.

The legislation would also establish a diversity advisory group at the SEC, which would study strategies to increase diversity on corporate boards because the truth is that making meaningful progress on board diversity is going to require a range of different policies in addition to the improved disclosures in this legislation.

The diversity advisory group at the SEC would continue to study these issues and would continue to make recommendations of best policies for the future.

I urge my colleagues to support this effort, support this bill, support our amendment, and vote "yes" on H.R. 1187.

HONORING MICKEY STEPHENS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Georgia Representative Mickey Stephens for his remarkable career in the Georgia General Assembly.

Mr. Stephens is a native of Savannah and a proud graduate of Savannah State College. He served one term in

2002 and was reelected in 2014 to the Georgia House, representing the 165th District.

As an educator, he was a great asset to Savannah High School, Shuman Middle School, and John W. Hubert Middle School. Additionally, he served on the Savannah-Chatham County Board of Public Education and the Savannah Zoning Board of Appeals.

Mr. Stephens is known throughout Georgia for his civic service, including his commitment to the community and his efforts in supporting the education of youth and adults.

Thank you, Mr. Stephens, for all of your hard work to make Savannah a better place to live. You are an inspiration to us all about giving back to your community.

REMEMBERING MICHAEL MAMALAKIS

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to remember and honor Michael Mamalakis of Savannah, Georgia, who passed away on May 16 at the age of 37.

Michael was a lifelong resident of Savannah and a graduate of Jenkins High School.

He had many passions in his life, but one of his greatest passions was the Savannah Country Day School sports teams.

Michael spent 20 years inspiring athletes with his incredible spirit and unsurpassed devotion. He taught players and coaches alike that passion, effort, and dedication are far more important in sports than wins and losses.

In 2014, Michael was honored as Savannah Country Day School's Best of Preps Unsung Hero.

He touched many lives in the Savannah community, and his irreplaceable presence will be missed by all.

My thoughts and prayers are with his family, friends, and all who knew him, during this most difficult time.

CONGRATULATING DAVION MITCHELL

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Davion Mitchell for winning the 2021 NCAA men's basketball national championship with Baylor University.

Davion has never been a stranger to achieving success and making an impact on his team.

During his time at Liberty County High School in Hinesville, in the First Congressional District of Georgia, Davion led his team to their first State title in school history.

As a junior at Baylor University, Davion led Baylor in an impressive season that resulted in a win over Gonzaga in the national championship game.

Some of Davion's impressive accolades include the AP All-American Team, the All-Big 12 First Team, the 2021 All-Tournament Team, and the National Defensive Player of the Year.

Davion's long list of accomplishments stems from his countless hours of work and his determination to win.

I, along with the rest of the First Congressional District, congratulate you, Davion, on your achievements and know that you will continue to make us proud.

HONORING CARL HAMILTON ALEXANDER

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor retired Chief of Police Carl Hamilton Alexander of Brunswick, Georgia, who peacefully passed away at the age of 72.

Chief Alexander was a man of strong character and deep devotion to his lifelong profession of public service.

He began his career in public service with the Glynn County Fire-Rescue in 1970, and he would eventually rise through the ranks of the police department to become chief of police.

Under his leadership, the Glynn County Police Department became the 14th nationally accredited agency in the State in 1994.

Chief Alexander modernized the county emergency radio system and brought computer technology into police vehicles.

Through every position he had, he worked to better his community and every life he touched. His commitment to Glynn County has changed countless lives, and we are forever grateful.

My thoughts and prayers are with his family, friends, and all who knew him during this most difficult time.

HONORING MARCOS MUNOZ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. GARCÍA) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to honor my friend and activist Marcos Munoz, who lived a life of service and commitment to workers' rights.

Marcos migrated to the United States from Coahuila, Mexico, when he was 13 years old. He was looking to make money to help his mother and his siblings after his father left them.

He worked for a Texas rancher, who had him deported when Marcos asked for money he was owed after 5 months of backbreaking work.

When Marcos returned to the U.S. in his twenties, the abuse he experienced turned him into an activist, fighting for basic labor rights for farmworkers.

The late Cesar Chavez, leader of the United Farm Workers, recognized Marcos' leadership skills and asked him to lead efforts across the United States on behalf of the United Farm Workers union.

I met Marcos when he came to Chicago seeking support for the second grape boycott. I was a student at the University of Illinois at Chicago and learned a lot about labor organizing from him.

Marcos later made Chicago his home, settling in our neighborhood of Little Village, where he organized block clubs to create unity and elect representatives from the community.

He later became a steelworker, joined the United Steelworkers union, and spent his last years before retirement as manager of supplies and linen at Cook County Hospital.

Marcos passed away on May 15. I was lucky to call Marcos a mentor and a